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N O R T H V I E T N A M

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NONALIGNED CONFERENCE SUPPORTS INDOCHINESE PEOPLES

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1447 GMT 15 Aug 72 B

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 15--The foreign ministers conference of non-aligned countries on August 12 adopted the "Georgetown declaration" at a plenary session before the closing of the conference, reports from Guyana said.

With regard to the situation in Indochina, the declaration said: The foreign ministers expressed their solidarity with the struggle of the heroic people of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos for their self-determination. These people has been subjected to the ravages of war for decades and has suffered incalculable losses, both human and material. But the brutal war which was being waged against the people of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos had only strengthened their will. It was heartening to note that they were continuing their struggle with renewed vigor and perseverance. The foreign ministers were convinced that the people of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos would eventually emerge victorious in their just struggle, anything less would not be befitting to the noble sacrifices that they had made.

The foreign ministers were deeply concerned at the escalation of the war in Vietnam by the resumption of the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam. They were particularly perturbed by reports of damage to dikes and dams in North Vietnam and of untold suffering amongst the civilian population as a result of these raids. Convinced that there could be no military solution to the problem of Vietnam, the foreign ministers called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces from Vietnam. This was an essential prerequisite to the creation of conditions for a peaceful settlement of the question where in the people of Vietnam could decide their own destiny without outside interference.

The foreign ministers lent their full support to the seven-point proposal and the two key points of the Provisionary Government [[Revolutionary] Government of the Republic of South Vietnam. This proposal offered a just and reasonable basis for the settlement of the question. They urged the serious negotiations for a settlement at the Paris talks on the basis of the proposals presented by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam.

The foreign ministers demand the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the three countries of Indochina. This was essential for peace of the region. They urged a pacific solution in Indochina which would ensure the independence, unity, territorial integrity and neutrality of the countries in the region. They firmly support the five points of the Cambodian proclamation and the appeal of the 23rd March 1970, made by Prince Norodom Sihanouk head of state. The problem should be settled on the basis of these five points and the political programme of the National United Front of Kampuchea.

Besides, the conference unanimously adopted a resolution recognizing the right of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam to attend all conferences of the non-aligned countries as a full member.

HANOI BROADCASTS ALLEGED STATEMENTS BY RAMSEY CLARK

Statement Before Leaving

Hanoi in English to Southeast Asia 2000 GMT 14 Aug 72 B

[Text] Before leaving Hanoi for home last Saturday, former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark had this to tell to our overseas listeners. [follows recorded male voice with American accent]

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[It is] 2 weeks now that I have been in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, I traveled in many countries. I've been on nearly all the continents. I've been throughout the Western Hemisphere and Africa, every country in Europe, much of the rest of the world. Most people are hospitable and friendly, but I must say my reception here was amazing.

I am an American, I always will be. America is fighting a war with this country and its people. American bombers have bombed the cities and the villages. Yet, in all this time, all these days, busy days and nights in cities and villages, driving down the road well over a thousand kilometers between villages and cities, and many more kilometers than that within villages and cities, thousands and thousands of people, millions of officials at city level, and the provincial level, the national level, the cop on the beat [words indistinct] literally, the little children everywhere, I haven't seen an angry look, I haven't heard an unkind expression. I have been received--a stranger, and a foreigner--with friendship and generosity.

Of course, most didn't even know I am an American. All they knew is that I'm a strange-looking, whiteskinned, tall, skinny person. But, I think you could see that the people in this country have reason not to particularly love people that look like me. Yet, I believe they do. As a [word indistinct] throughout the country, people at all levels, women, children, mayors, high government officials have said: Never doubt that our people can distinguish between the American people and the leadership that wreaks the violence that causes death here. Our people love the American people, I've been told. We believe the American people love freedom, independence, and peace, and that's what we love. I think they tell the truth.

It's sad to see the damage here. I've seen more death and destruction in my life than a person (?can ask for). I saw the destruction in Western Europe in World War II. I went throughout such countries as Poland, Germany, France, and England, Belgium and Luxembourg, and the Netherlands, and Russia right after the war. I saw cities laid in waste. I saw the ruins of Tokyo and Hiroshima in 1948, although much had been rebuilt in Tokyo by that time. I've seen war damage on three continents in smaller wars, in what we've called wars of liberation and colonial wars.

But this is different here, because here you have two people so vastly different--the United States, rich and powerful, technologically advanced, with enormous capacity to destroy through technology; the people's Democratic Republic of Vietnam, a poor country, a proud country, a country that has seen for the first time really, as far as I can tell in its history, great progress in recent years, but still, admittedly, a poor country, a country without massive technology, a country with barely a tenth of the population of the United States. And yet, you see here an indomitable spirit, no question about it. You see that the terror of the bombing, the horror of the bombing, and the death of the bombing [word indistinct] redoubles the determination of the people to fight on.

We conclude from that that the bombing is not only inhumane, and there is no greater need for mankind, if you have to survive, than (?new) humanism. The bombing is not only inhumane, it is stupid. It must cease, it only prolongs violence. It cannot overcome this country. This country is 95 percent rural. You cannot bomb these people into submission, you'll only make them more determined than ever. Because, the reasons that they'll have to explain to the world: They believe their cause is just. [Recording ends]

That was a statement from former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark.

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Impressions of Thanh Hoa

Hanoi in English to Southeast Asia 1530 GMT 10 Aug 72 B

[Text] Here is the news from the "Voice of Vietnam." Clark and his visit to the Province of Thanh Hoa about [words indistinct] miles from Hanoi, from (?) August to 9 August. Here is the lawyer Ramsey Clark to give you his impressions [words indistinct]: [follows recorded male voice with American accent]

The (?first) impression that I get from this trip, I believe, is the enormous contrast between peace and war. Umm, last night and yesterday afternoon and this morning we (?spent) in a beautiful and peaceful little village of 2,900 human beings. The village has been there for more than 500 years; they call it (?Phu Min). You can see the great progress that people are making there, you can see the pride that they have and the quality of their lives. You can see the health of the children and the love of the families and the productivity of the land, the growth of education and opportunity.

Here I am, a wonderful experience for me to be able to spend that time in the village. We spent it in six or seven different homes of families and were received with great friendship and generosity on, on each occasion. Then this morning, in the sharpest contrast, we, we saw what war is, and what it does. We visited a hamlet, [words indistinct]. This hamlet had been heavily bombed, 23 of the people killed, their plantations bombed. They were beginning to rebuild and the dikes were lined with people and carts bringing lumber and other building materials in to rebuild homes.

You can see not only the devastation to the land and the homes, the farm areas and the rice paddies, but you can see the suffering etched in the faces of the people. You can see how they wondered how this could possibly happen to their peaceful village. But suddenly, at 3:00 am one morning, without any warning and by people they never knew and will never know, umm, be bombed into oblivion.

So I believe this province shows, as few others perhaps, the terrible contrast between war and peace. It also shows that the indomitable spirit of people can never be overcome. This was apparent in both villages. In the village of (?Phu Min) which had not been bombed we could see all the enormous energy and [words indistinct] the people to build a land 10 times more beautiful, but among those in the village that had been bombed we were met by two young sons who were orphaned by the bombing--one 16 years old, one 15 years old--we could find this fierce determination to carry on until there is a time of freedom and independence acceptable to the people. [Words indistinct] been a reality of what you've seen, you've a much deeper meaning to what you believe, and umm, to come from reading, seeing pictures and hearing about [words indistinct] from others who've been there, one has to be deeply impressed with the people of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

I have wondered, umm, for many years, what it was that (?created) such a [words indistinct] spirit, determination to prevail. What, umm, what it was that, that drives the people of this country through all these long [words indistinct] hard tortured years of war, and how, in spite of the suffering and hardship and death, they seem to grow stronger and more determined.

Having been here and visited in a number of the provinces and seen the major cities [words indistinct] have travelled over a thousand kilometers, umm, between cities and villages by now; walked the streets of the cities alone and with others; walked the pathways of the villages and along the dikes and canals alone and with others; watched the people and talked with them to the extent that I've been [words indistinct] speak English.

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I have to, umm, believe that, umm, the determination of the people, (?strengthens) the people and comes from their conviction that this land and these people are served by their government; that there is justice and equality here. My experience tells me that, umm, [words indistinct] told (?Aristotle) that the chief and universal cause of the revolutionary impulse is the desire for equality. You see no internal conflict in this country. I've seen none. You feel unity in spirit. I doubt very seriously that I could walk in safety in Saigon or the cities and villages of South Vietnam, as I have here, because of, umm, the division, the confusion and the lack of faith and belief there. And I think the people here have seen progress in a short period of time. I had a talk with, umm, an older man and a woman [words indistinct] who (?tried) to describe how much better the (?kids) of her children were being educated than they were as children. How much better health service in the cities and villages are, than they were at the time that the older people were young. The older people, people my age, and [words indistinct] had known hunger in the past, uncertainty about the future and the children of this time have this paradise [words indistinct], so I guess, it seems to me that, umm, the people here believe. They believe in the righteousness of their purpose and that [words indistinct]. [male voice with American accent fades out as announcer's voice returns]

You have just listened to impressions given by U.S. lawyer Ramsey Clark after his visit to the bombed areas in Thanh Hoa Province.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT ON U.S. AIR STRIKES

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1442 GMT 15 Aug 72 B

[Text] On 15 August, the spokesman of our Foreign Ministry issued a statement condemning the U.S. imperialists for sending aircraft to conduct extermination bombings against Thanh Hoa municipality and to barbarously attack many populous areas in North Vietnam. The text of the statement reads:

On 14 August 1972, the U.S. imperialists sent aircraft to carry out extermination bombings and shellings against Thanh Hoa municipality and to drop demolition and steel pellet bombs on many wards, streets and the outskirts of the municipality. On the same day, U.S. aircraft also barbarously bombed and shelled suburban areas of Haiphong port and Vinh city, as well as many densely populated areas in Hai Hung, Thai Binh, Nam Ha, Ninh Binh, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh provinces and the Vinh Linh area. U.S. B-52's bombed a number of localities in Quang Binh Province while U.S. warships bombed and shelled a number of coastal areas in Nam Ha Province. U.S. bombs and rockets have killed and wounded many innocent people, the majority of whom are old men, women, and children, and have destroyed many houses and property of the local people.

The above criminal acts of the Nixon administration have grossly encroached on DRV sovereignty and security, brazenly violated the pledge made by the U.S. Government to end totally and unconditionally the bombing and shelling of North Vietnam, and constitute an impudent challenge to world public opinion and U.S. opinion. These criminal acts have further exposed the extremely warlike cruel, and aggressive features of U.S. imperialism.

The DRV Foreign Ministry strongly denounces and sternly condemns the above wild war acts of the Nixon administration and resolutely demands that it immediately end the bombing and shelling of North Vietnam, the mining and blockade of the ports, and all other actions encroaching on DRV sovereignty and security.